

Metropolitan Development Committee

DATE: May 24, 2004

CALLED TO ORDER: 5:30 p.m.

ADJOURNED: 5:50 p.m.

ATTENDANCE

Attending Members

Steve Talley, Chairman
Ron Gibson
Becky Langsford
Angela Mansfield
Jackie Nytes
Marilyn Pfisterer

Absent Members

Mike Speedy

AGENDA

PROPOSAL NO. 261, 2004 – amends the official zoning map to change the delineation of the wellfield protection zoning districts

“Postponed” until June 14, 2004

Vote: 6-0

Metropolitan Development Committee

The Metropolitan Development Committee of the City-County Council met on Monday, May 24, 2004. Chairman Steve Talley called the meeting to order at 5:30 p.m., with the following members present: Ron Gibson, Becky Langsford, Angela Mansfield, Jackie Nytes, and Marilyn Pfisterer. Absent was Mike Speedy.

Chairman Talley explained that he received notice from the Indianapolis Water Company that there were several errors in the proposal; therefore he would like to postpone the proposal until the next Metropolitan Development Committee meeting on June 14, 2004. He asked for a presentation of the proposal even though no vote will be taken.

Keith Holdsworth, principal planner in the Division of Planning, Department of Metropolitan Development (DMD), said he wanted to talk about the updated wellfield protection zones. He explained Exhibit A. The first map is of Marion County as a whole and the following maps are detailed level maps. The dark gray area found on the Marion County map is the W1, the one year time travel. A drop of rain water falling on the outside edge of that dark area takes one year to travel to the intake of one of the wells of public water supplies. The light gray is the W5, the five year time travel, which takes five years to reach the intake of one of the wells. The importance of this information is that the wellfield protection ordinance requires any new business or business expansion to go through a process showing they have taken the appropriate measures to make sure there is not accidental contamination of the water.

Councillor Nytes said she appreciates the efforts of getting information out to the public about the importance of the wellfields. She asked why there are no wellfields in the lower area of the county. Mr. Holdsworth said most of the wellfields in Marion County are along the river where the gravel deposits are located.

Councillor Pfisterer said we take water for granted; we cannot manufacture water and need to protect this resource. She asked if they could address the concerns of the new I-69 route going over a particular wellfield and the potential contaminating of oil and road salt in the well. Kent Coad, Department of Public Works (DPW), said from his understanding they are going to consider the potential contamination and make sure it will be safe. He said they are keeping a close eye on the issue. Ms. Pfisterer said that this is an important issue and with increased traffic there will be potential impact on the water.

Chris Barnett, vice chairman of Marion County Wellfield Education Corporation, said one of the concerns about using the zoning ordinance approach of protecting ground water is that they cannot protect State property on the wellfields, including roads and highways.

Norman Pace, citizen, said that with the new route of I-69 and the increase of oil and road salt affecting those gravel pits and water. He said there is great risk of contamination to their drinking water and action must be taken now on the quality of life of the citizens.

Margaret Schattner, member of the Marion County Wellfield Education Corporations, said that it is essential that the aquifer be protected. She said there are three reasons why I-69 should not go

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through Perry Township aquifer: the contamination of the aquifer, increased damage on the ozone level with the intensity in traffic, the need for more State police to patrol the highway, higher cost in other routes, and the additional cost of road maintenance.

Councillor Nytes asked if there is any time line issue in postponing the proposal. Councillor Talley responded in the negative. He said that he has spoken with the Director of Metropolitan Development to clarify.

Chairman Talley moved, seconded by Councillor Nytes, to “postpone” Proposal No. 261, 2004, until June 14, 2004. The motion carried by a vote of 6-0.

CONCLUSION

With no further business pending, and upon motion duly made, the Metropolitan Development Committee of the City-County Council was adjourned at 5:50 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Steve Talley, Chairman
Metropolitan Development Committee

ST/as